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hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on or before the date shown below.

Del S. Christensen Date: March 24, 2004 RECEIVED

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GROUP 3600

Group Art Unit: 3641

March 24, 2004

Examiner: H. A. Blackner

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Edward Paul Cernocky and Allen J. Lindfors

Serial No. 09/896,432

Filed June 29, 2001

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETONATING

AN EXPLOSIVE CHARGE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)

Applicant petitions for a one-month extension of time in accordance with 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Please charge the \$110.00 fee to Shell Oil Company, Deposit Account No. 19-1800. An extra copy of this Petition is enclosed for that purpose.

By_

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Paul Cernocky and Allen J. Lindfors

Their Attorney, Del S. Christensen Registration No. 33,482

(713) 241-3997

P. O. Box 2463 Houston, Texas 77252-2463

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